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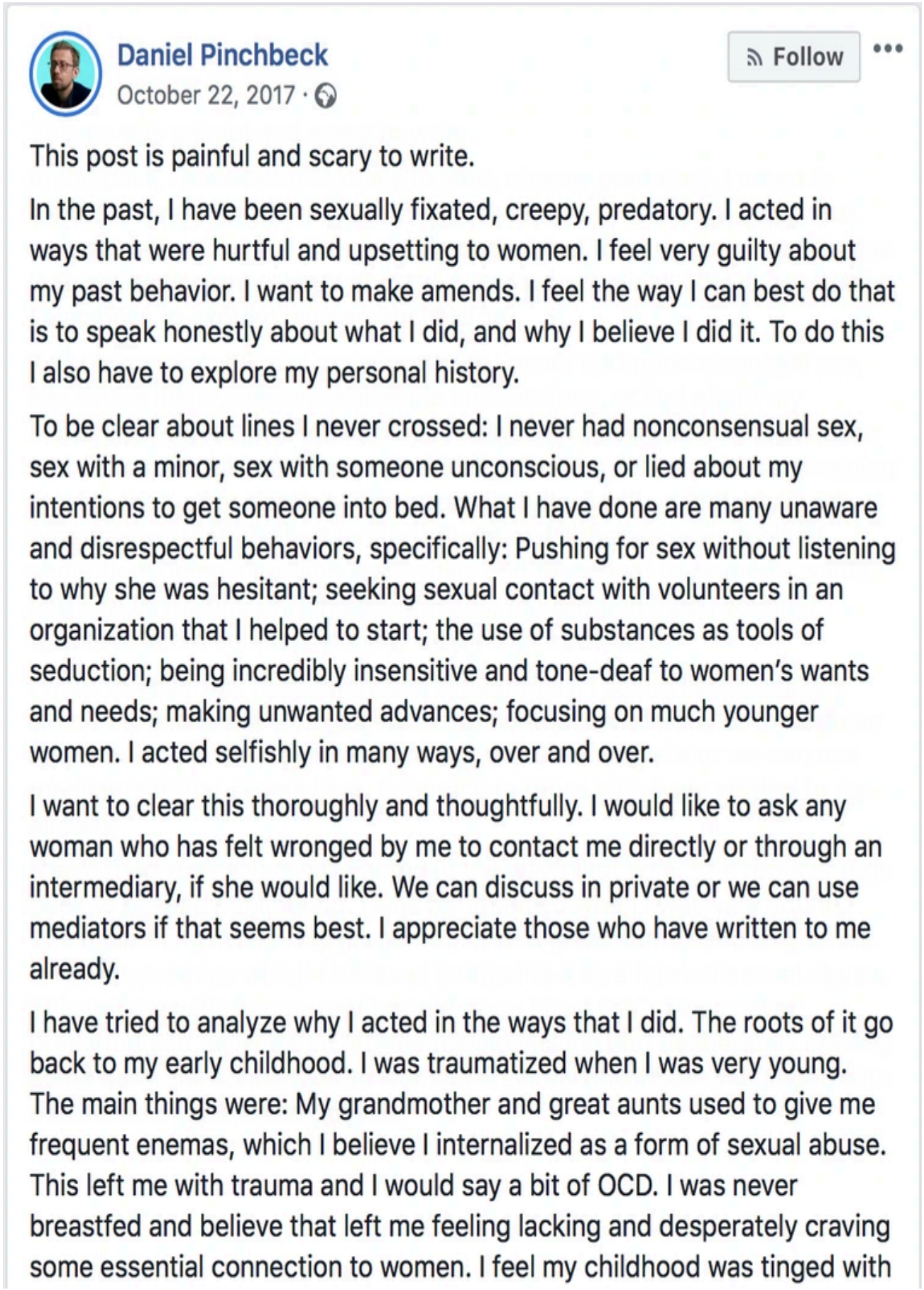
Daniel Pinchbeck Admission



Daniel Pinchbeck
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This post is painful and scary to write.

In the past, I have been sexually fixated, creepy, predatory. I acted in ways that were hurtful and upsetting to women. I feel very guilty about my past behavior. I want to make amends. I feel the way I can best do that is to speak honestly about what I did, and why I believe I did it. To do this I also have to explore my personal history.

To be clear about lines I never crossed: I never had nonconsensual sex, sex with a minor, sex with someone unconscious, or lied about my intentions to get someone into bed. What I have done are many unaware and disrespectful behaviors, specifically: Pushing for sex without listening to why she was hesitant; seeking sexual contact with volunteers in an organization that I helped to start; the use of substances as tools of seduction; being incredibly insensitive and tone-deaf to women's wants and needs; making unwanted advances; focusing on much younger women. I acted selfishly in many ways, over and over.

I want to clear this thoroughly and thoughtfully. I would like to ask any woman who has felt wronged by me to contact me directly or through an intermediary, if she would like. We can discuss in private or we can use mediators if that seems best. I appreciate those who have written to me already.

I have tried to analyze why I acted in the ways that I did. The roots of it go back to my early childhood. I was traumatized when I was very young. The main things were: My grandmother and great aunts used to give me frequent enemas, which I believe I internalized as a form of sexual abuse. This left me with trauma and I would say a bit of OCD. I was never breastfed and believe that left me feeling lacking and desperately craving some essential connection to women. I feel my childhood was tinged with

I became dangerously sick as a child with a spinal infection, spending 10

feeling like a failure in the world of status in NYC all combined to feed a huge amount of resentment that stayed with me and festered over time.

I think also that my early childhood blinded me to the fact that women were the primary victims in our patriarchal system. I felt, instead, victimized and disempowered by women, on the most intimate level.

My close friends in NYC in the "roaring 90s" were using coke, heroin, and drinking a huge amount. Intoxication was used to obliterate boundaries. I remember one friend - the son of a famous NY art gallerist who kept giving me heroin - giving me the same advice as Trump: If I wanted more success with women, I should just grab them between the legs. The basic model of sexuality in that scene was aggressive, dominance based, and involved transgression of boundaries as a norm. Nobody discussed "verbal consent" or the idea of "consensual non-monogamy." Those concepts didn't exist in that world.

This was the model of how things worked in the world where I found myself coming of age as a man - how I was conditioned. Looking back, it was incredibly primitive.

As my work became popular, I had a lot more romantic opportunities than previously. I hadn't expected this to be the case - I wrote my books out of the purest motivation to learn and share knowledge. At first I was really amazed and grateful. I had a taste of what it must be like to be rock star or a successful DJ - to a certain extent, it was the opportunity I had been yearning for. I had many beautiful and consensual experiences that I still treasure. What had been once so difficult to "attain" became normal.

> magazines, and I started a literary magazine with two close male friends. I also had my first normal relationships - beginning a series of monogamous partnerships that lasted several years each. Even though I had normal relationships through my 20s, I felt envious of the men in my circle who were making more money and attracting more women.

422 Views

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